

MMA Leader



Current information for our Special Friends. Dedicated to our Cadets—Leaders of tomorrow.

14 Pages

Vol. 18, No. 5

December/January 2005

Cadets Excel During District Inspection

The Academy once again breezed through its annual Marine Corps JROTC inspection on Friday, December 3, 2004. The inspection was conducted by members of the Eighth Marine Corps District Office in New Orleans.

The Academy is one of 40 Marine Corps JROTC units in Texas and Louisiana that the district inspects to ensure each is following proper procedures as outlined by Headquarters Marine Corps.

The Academy and its Corps of Cadets are inspected in five main areas (Cadet Attendance, Administration, Operations and Training, Personnel and Logistics) and a total of 12 sub-areas.

As usual, MMA has done outstanding in the inspection, and this year was no exception. The cadets received a resounding score of 99.35. In comparison to years past, the cadets improved their scores by three points.

"They look at every facet of our JROTC program," said MMA operations chief, Master Sergeant Michael Krauss, USMC (Ret). "They inspect our quartermaster, armory and rifle range. They check the cleanliness of our weapons and make sure all the gear is serviceable."

Cadets, as well, were graded on their personal appearance, performance in drill (as a team), military knowledge and leadership ability. Inspectors looked for such infractions as loose thread on uniforms and improperly worn covers, belts and rank insignias.

Additionally, the inspectors ask cadets questions about the Marine Corps and the government, such as who the Secretary of Navy is, or how many leadership principles there are. Any slipups along



Members of Echo Company stand at attention during District Inspection. They were checked for personal appearance, military knowledge and performance in drill.

the way go down as a discrepancy.

After the inspection, the first platoon of Delta Company was presented the plaque for the "Best Inspected Company" Award. The platoon (representing Delta Company) won the "Best Drill Platoon" Award.

"I was very proud of how the Cadets prepared and performed during the inspection," stated Commandant of Cadets Sergeant Major Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret). "The senior inspecting officer complimented the Corps on their knowledge and their ability to answer questions."

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A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the many individuals who have so generously contributed to the Marine Military Academy.

Earlier in the year I challenged the alumni to support an endowed scholarship in memory of Gunnery Sergeant "Ski". I wanted to raise \$500,000 to not only provide a scholarship for a deserving young man who otherwise would never have been able to attend the Marine Military Academy, but also name the parade field after Gunny "Ski". We are approaching \$30,000. Thank you alumni for remembering Gunny "Ski" through your contributions. We will keep working to reach the \$500,000 goal.

I also sent out a letter to over 450 VFW's in the state of Texas asking for their support to raise \$500,000.00 for an endowed scholarship for a young man from the state of Texas. I would like to thank the following VFW's for their support:

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Lake of the Pines Post 10373
Commander Charles Taylor
PO Box 374
Jefferson City, Texas 75657-0374

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Unit Jack F. Lee Post 9187
6101 E. Mt Houston
Houston, Texas 77050

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 6873
Commander Martin Dennison
1049 Veterans Drive
Abilene, Texas 79605-337



Lt Col Robert "Bob" Grider
Director of Institutional Advancement

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Post 2438
Commander Phillip H. Parker
PO Box 269
Bay City, Texas 77404-0269

The year is rapidly closing and the Academy will begin to receive requests from the families of our cadets for scholarship assistance for next year. In March I will ask our donors to help through their contributions. I ask that when you receive my request you consider supporting our scholarship assistance drive. Last year the Academy provided over \$650,000.00 in scholarship assistance for our returning cadets. Many of the recipients would not have been able to attend the Marine Military Academy had it not been for the tremendous generosity of our donors.

I will close by again thanking all of our donors for your generosity and belief in the Marine Military Academy.

Sincerely,

Lt Col Robert "Bob" Grider
USMC (Ret)

Information Available for Scholarship Assistance for 2005-2006 School Year

The Marine Military Academy awards financial assistance to returning cadets on an annual basis. The number of applications and amount of financial assistance requested each year is far greater than the scholarship fund. Thus the cadet must compete for scholarships based on his performance and the family's ability to pay.

The largest single factor considered in the cadet's performance is his GPA, which must be at least 2.5 for the spring semester and at least a 3.0 cumulative MMA GPA. Other factors such as conduct, military leadership and participation in extracurricular activities are also considered.

To request an application, please contact: Institutional Advancement Department (Attention Scholarship Committee). Marine Military Academy, 320 Iwo Jima Blvd., Harlingen, TX 78550. If you have any questions, you may call Ester B. Reyes at (956) 423-6006 ext. 231.

An application will be forwarded immediately and must be completed and returned no later than 13 May 2005. Recipients of financial assistance will be notified by 10 June 2005. As part of the application process you must provide a copy of your 2004 federal income tax return (including copies of W-2 forms) or your application will not be considered.

Your cadet must be re-enrolled for the Academic year 2005-2006 before the Scholarship Committee meets in May 2005.

Applications received after 13 May 2005 will not be considered.

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Dr. Ricciardi Studies Rescue and Resistance in Occupied France

Dr. Mary Ricciardi was chosen last spring to participate in a Summer Seminar sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She spent the month of July in Lyon, France, working with fourteen other participants and the two co-directors of the seminar to explore the topic of "Children and Rescue in France During the Second World War." In the process, they studied the history of events leading to World War II including antisemitism and military buildup in Europe. They read literary works either written during or dealing with events of the period, visited sites where massacres of children, civilians, and resistants had occurred, and interviewed survivors of the period.

"We wanted to learn what it is that makes ordinary people willing to risk their lives to save total strangers," Dr. Ricciardi stated. "What we learned is that rescuers and Resistance fighters share a lot of personality traits: they are people who were raised with high moral and ethical standards, they have had a habit since childhood of helping others, they are independent and don't rely on the opinion of others when deciding what is right and what is wrong, they are resourceful, and they are willing to take risks."

Most of the seminar work was done in Lyon, which had been a center of the Resistance. Lyon is the third largest city in France, with a population of approximately two million, and has been a center of the silk industry since the Renaissance. The Old City is a tangle of narrow streets honeycombed with traboules, secret passages leading from one street to another and sometimes from one level to another. Used in earlier times by silk merchants who needed to carry bolts of fabric around the city without exposing the cloth to weather, the traboules were also used by the Resistants as escape routes and hiding places for weapons, supplies and even people. Today they are preserved as historical sites.

The highlight of the seminar was doing group interviews of people who had played various roles in the Resistance and in the rescue of children. "They are remarkable people," Dr. Ricciardi acknowledged. "They have made history and they have wonderful stories to tell."

One of the Resistants she met was Odile, now in her 80's, who had become a

Resistant at age 14 and carried secret messages, forged documents, and even weapons around in her school bag, under her books. Odile became a liaison officer for the Resistance. She was so young that nobody suspected her, and this probably saved her life. Liaison officers were the only ones who knew the identities of all the Resistants, and those who were caught by the Gestapo were often tortured to make them tell the names of their contacts. If they refused to talk, they were shot. Of the nine liaison officers who worked in the Lyon region, only two survived the war.

Another Resistant was Nathan Chapochnik, an urban guerrilla who specialized in making explosives and blowing up bridges, railroad lines, electrical grids, and factories. He took part in more than 200 sabotage operations against the German war effort, but lost a finger when a detonator he was holding went off in his hand. Both Nathan and Odile are active in veterans' organizations and work with museums and research centers to keep alive the memory of what they did to free France from the Nazis.

The group visited Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, a village where French Protestants, led by their pastor, sheltered at least 5000 Jews between 1940 and 1944. The pastor had told his congregation: "When our adversaries tell us to do what we know is wrong, we will resist—and we will do so without fear, but also without pride and without hatred." That attitude enabled the community to work together with no formal organization to do what had to be done.

There are lessons in the history of that time. Genocide is still being committed today: it has happened in Rwanda, in Bosnia under Milosevic, in Iraq under Saddam, and it is happening now in Sudan.

"Even though we know it when we see it, nations have not yet learned to work together to stop it," stated Dr. Ricciardi. According to her, people have to get better at this. "We learned a lot about how people perceive war," Dr. Ricciardi said. "Most of the Resistants would rather not fight, but they know that sometimes there is no other choice."

Dr Ricciardi shows the location of Lyon in the Rhone Alps.



One of Lyon's many traboules visited by Dr. Ricciardi.

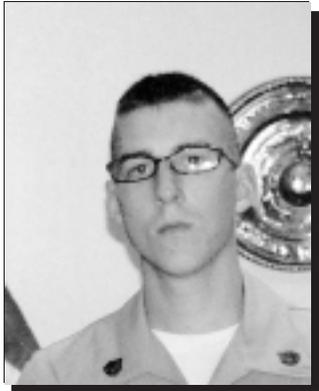
Cadets of the Month for November

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for November with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance" - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) Commandant

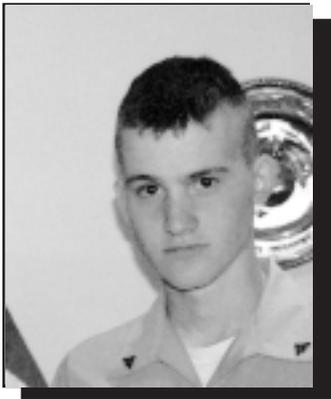
Alpha Company
Rory J. Larson
Junior - Temecula, CA

"Cadet Larson has done an exceptionally well job as 1st Plt Sergeant. He is quick to take charge, and sets a good example for other leaders to follow. He has earned the title 'Cadet of the Month'." - Master Sgt. Walter W. Field, USMC (Ret)



Charlie Company
Kyle Jackson Wood
Junior - Houston, TX

"Wood is an outstanding example of what an MMA cadet should be. He is hardworking, dedicated, and committed to excellence. He strives to do the best he can regarding any assigned tasks. Cadet Wood has a stellar future at MMA." - SgtMaj Allen Szczepek USMC (Ret)



Delta Company
Robert Woodside Landies, III
Junior - Houston, TX
"Cadet Landies, III is the most improved cadet in Delta Company. His renewed motivation and participation in the company has made an impressive impact on the morale of his platoon." - SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



Echo Company
Chris Latos
Sophomore - Torrance, CA
"He is an outstanding squad leader. He sets the example everyday, works and studies hard to get good grades. Other cadets look up to him and respect him for his great leadership skills that he has developed this year." - GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)

Fox Company
Travis R. Duncan
Freshman - Houston, TX

"He has displayed true initiative and dedication towards becoming a better Cadet. He sets the example for others to follow, as he's proven himself to become a future leader of cadets. Definitely an asset to the Corps of Cadets, and an excellent role model to follow." - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)



Golf Company
Steven Oswald
Junior - King, NC

"This cadet is a fall join and has done a superb job since he arrived. He can be counted on to perform any task assigned. He will have a bright future in Golf Company." - SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



Bandsman
Juventino Villanueva
Junior - Boerne, TX
"A true leader and stand up role model for all of his peers and subordinates. His growth has been nothing short of absolutely tremendous and he represents MMA with a great deal of pride and enthusiasm. Just simply a GREAT YOUNG MAN.." - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



Drill Team/Color Guard
Samuel Edwards
Senior - Bronx, NY
"He has demonstrated superb leadership since taking charge of the Drill Team. Very eager to teach and spread the knowledge that he has. He has been a definite asset to the drill team/color guard." - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)

Cadets of the Month for December

Each month a cadet is selected from each company, from the band and from the drill team, to be recognized for their outstanding attitude, conduct and performance. Below are the selections for December with a comment from their Drill Instructor or activity coordinator.

"Those selected are to be commended for their outstanding performance" - SgtMaj Ford Kinsley, USMC (Ret) Commandant

Alpha Company
Graham M. Forssman
Junior - New York, NY

"He is very consistent in balancing his self discipline in the classroom and in the barracks. Sgt Forssman was instrumental in the successful 8th MCD inspection that involved the Service "C" uniform inspection and drill evaluation for A Co." - Master Sgt. Walter W. Field, USMC (Ret)



Charlie Company
David Solomon Nekuyi
Junior - San Antonio, TX

"He is hardworking, intelligent, and committed to excellence. He strives to do the best he can regarding any assigned tasks. Cadet Nekuyi has a stellar future at the Marine Military Academy." - SgtMaj Allen Szczepek USMC (Ret)



Delta Company
Joseph Lappert
Freshman - Scottsbluff, NE
"His academic credentials are sound and his participation in activities reflects the traits of a gifted and well-rounded young man. He is serious minded and conscientious. ." - SgtMaj Larry Carson, USMC (Ret)



Echo Company
Daniel Guillotte
Senior - College Station, TX
"Cadet Guillotte has developed great leadership skills, and is a good example for cadets in Echo Company. Great military appearance, and in good physical condition." - GySgt Frank Martinez, USMC (Ret)

Fox Company
Eric Simenstad
Freshman - Napa, CA

"He has displayed true initiative and dedication towards becoming a better cadet. He's motivated and sets the example for others to follow. He's working very hard to better himself as a cadet as well as a student. He will become a great asset to the Corps of Cadets." - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)



Golf Company
Guillermo Limon
Senior - Glendale, AZ

"This cadet has done a superb job and is truly an asset to the Company. He can be counted on to be right there when needed." - SgtMaj Albert Wilson, USMC (Ret)



Bandsman
Adam Harris
Sophomore - Ft Lauderdale, Fla
"He has done a great job with a very young Drum Line this year. He can always be relied upon, is always very courteous, prompt, and prepared. He has clearly earned his role as the Drum Line Section Leader." - CWO3 Ed Harris, USMC (Ret)



Drill Team/Color Guard
Nickles Patel
Freshman - Sugar Land, TX
"Very eager to learn, good can do attitude & does great things for the team. A true asset to the Corps of Cadets as he has proven himself his first school year. Hard worker, and dedicated towards becoming a better Cadet as well as a better person." - MSgt Clifton Jones, USMC (Ret)

Mid-term Cadets Start The New Year Off "Ready to Go!"

With a flurry of last-minute signings, 78 new cadets, from as close as Harlingen, Texas to as far away as Chadian, Africa and all points in-between, enrolled at MMA during mid-term of the 2004-2005 school year.

Director of Admissions, Col Tom Hobbs, USMC (Ret), said he was not only pleased with the number of cadets enrolled for the mid-term semester, he was equally impressed with the quality of the applicants, as well.

"They seem to be a real good group of kids," he said. "They're motivated, hard-charging, maybe a little apprehensive, but ready to face the challenges of MMA."

When asked about attending MMA, incoming plebe Jesus Meza responded that it was his choice to come to MMA because he wanted to learn discipline and the Marine way of life. "My experience at MMA so far has been positive and I am learning to do what is expected of me," stated Meza, an eighth grader from Laredo, Texas. "Be-



havior is rewarded—both good and bad, consequences for bad and rewards for good."

Introductory Training Graduation (Plebe Graduation) will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2005.

(Above) Mid-term plebes march to second mess. New enrollee Chris Lamfer (right) gets his first haircut from Mr. Handy after registering for the new semester.



A WORD FROM THE COLLEGE ROOM

It's hard to believe that the first semester of the 2004-2005 school year is already over. We have been busy working with the seniors on their college applications, ROTC Scholarships, Academy nominations and career choices and options. Many of the cadets have already heard from and been accepted to the college of their choice. The College Room has certainly been a busy place, and will continue to be so for the next few months.

An important deadline coming up soon concerns financial aid for our college bound seniors. Thanks to new government guidelines, many more families now qualify for some type of financial aid – even those that think they earn too much.

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the form you or your son needs to complete in order to be considered for grants (aid that you do not have to repay) or work-study programs. The FAFSA examines your family's financial situation and determines your child's eligibility for financial aid. You must file the FAFSA prior to applying for any other federal student financial assistance programs. Some states and schools also require the FAFSA before you can apply for any grants or loan programs they may offer.

The FAFSA cannot be submitted before January 1 for the upcoming academic year, but

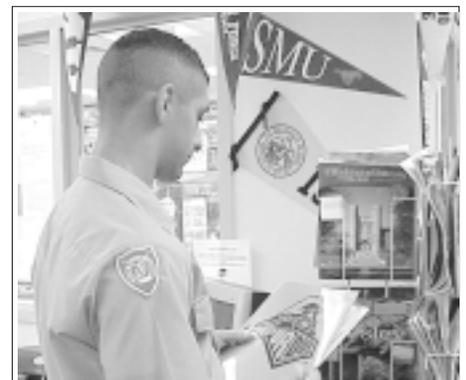
you'll want to file the application as soon as possible after the first of the year. Most financial aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The old saying about the early bird getting the worm definitely applies here. Schools have a set amount of funds they can distribute; the later they receive your application, the less money they'll have available.

The FAFSA is available in paper form, which can be requested from the College Room, however, the preferable form of application is on the Web at www.fafsa.ed.gov. By applying online, the application will be processed faster, and FAFSA on the Web automatically checks for missing or conflicting information so there's less chance the form will be rejected. One important word about the FAFSA is that it is FREE. There is no charge to fill out the FAFSA. Be aware of scams and businesses offering (for a fee) to help you get financial aid. If it sounds too good to be true...well, you know the rest of the story.

As for our juniors, they too are beginning to hang out in the College Room, watching DVD's from various schools, perusing through our extensive collection of college catalogs, view books and general information books. They are also getting ready to take the SAT and ACT in the spring. We are constantly reminding them to stay

focused, enroll in Advanced Placement classes and to begin considering their various college choices. One suggestion for spring break would be to make some college visits. While there, make sure you meet with an admissions representative and a Financial Aid Officer to find out what types of aid are available.

If you have any questions concerning the FAFSA, the college application process or anything else, please feel free to email us at swilliams@mma-tx.org. You can also reach the college room at 956-423-6006 ext 305.



(above) David Nekuyi, a junior, looks over Purdue's viewbook for some ideas about college.



Marine Military Academy Parents Organization
7th Annual Leatherneck Classic
Houston, Texas
April 8th & 9th, 2005



Here we are coming around to another spring and the annual MMA Leatherneck Classic! The MMAPO is looking forward to making this event the best ever!!!

On Friday at 1:00PM there will be a skeet shoot at the Houston Gun Club. Even if you are not a golfer, we hope that you will come and practice your marksmanship, or perhaps you would like to participate in BOTH activities! Friday evening will offer a great buffet with silent and live auctions, all beginning at 7PM.

The golf tournament will commence at 1:00PM on Saturday at Quail Valley Golf Club in Missouri City, however, you need not be a participant in either the skeet shoot or golf tournament to attend the buffet with the auctions and be an enthusiastic spectator!

A block of rooms has been secured, at a very reasonable rate, for both Friday and Saturday evening, at the new, gorgeous Sugar Land Marriott. The buffet dinner and auctions will be held there Friday evening and the shopping and restaurants surrounding this hotel, within walking distance, are phenomenal!

The MMAPO's goal is to NET at least \$109,000 to purchase one additional liberty bus and van, allowing the cadets to go into town and have an opportunity to see a movie, go to Wal-Mart, etc. I'm sure you can imagine how important this is to the boys! We will use any remaining funds to purchase additional items on the MMA "Wish List", such as some weights for the cadet weight room (not the athletic facility). In addition, if you are participating in the Classic and have a present Cadet at MMA, the Academy will transport your son, free of charge to Sugar Land to serve as a "helper" for the event.

Bottom line, however, we can't accomplish our goals without your help. We need financial support and volunteers! Below is a list of committees with which we could really use your help. In addition, this list also includes other ways that you can get involved.

All registration forms can be accessed by going to the MMA website homepage and clicking on the Leatherneck Classic link. The Chairmen of this great event look forward to hearing from you as to whether or not you plan on participating. This will be a great event for a great cause!

Ways you can help:

1. Be an Event Sponsor or solicit a sponsor to underwrite the cost of one or more events. You can be a full sponsor or a part sponsor:
 - a. Fun Shoot (\$2,500)
 - b. Buffet Dinner (\$6,500)
 - c. Golf Tournament (\$7,500)
2. Solicit the involvement of a Celebrity golfer
3. Be a Hole Sponsor (\$200 per hole)
4. Register yourself and a team of golfers!
5. Donate auction items: vacation home usage, condo usage, artwork, jewelry, hunting/fishing trips, airline tickets, "Golf Package", "Ski Package", "Vegas Package", dinner/theater package, tickets to professional football/ basketball game, etc. etc.
6. Volunteer to serve as a Committee Chairman or a committee member:
 - a. Registration
 - b. Golf
 - c. Skeet Shoot
 - d. Food
 - e. Publicity
 - f. Live/Silent Auction
 - g. Raffle
7. Purchase raffle tickets for a 5-day Carnival cruise (\$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00)
8. SELL raffle tickets for the Carnival cruise (contact the event chairmen for tickets)
9. Simply make a monetary donation!

Leatherneck Classic Chairmen Contact Information:

Brian and Denise Walker
19 Columbia Crest Place
The Woodlands, TX 77382
(281) 292-6258 home
(832) 455-6721 cell
mmagolfclassic@aol.com

Cadet Corner - A Focus on Community Service

Cadets Host Annual Christmas Party

On December 2, 2004, the Marine Military Academy hosted its annual Children's Christmas Party. Parents and children from Sunny Glenn Children's Home and Rio Grande Children's Home, along with children from the Academy's faculty, began the evening being welcomed on Battalion Street by cadet escorts.

In all, over seventy children were able to attend and enjoy the evening's festivities. Although the Academy's band wasn't able to turn the rain into snow, the inclement weather didn't dampen any spirits as their excellent performance was warmly received.

As the band finished, the guests were invited to enjoy all the hamburgers and hotdogs they could eat. After dinner, the Grinch, along with Santa and his elves, made a surprise appearance and began to pass out Christmas presents and goodie bags to all the children.

As the evening drew to a close and as every child was smiling from ear to ear, each and everyone involved to make this year's party a success was glad that they were able to share in some small way what the Christmas season is all about.



(above) It looks like Santa Claus made this little girl very happy during the Annual Children's Christmas Party.

Beach Clean-up



The Key Club and the National Honor Society participated in the Fall Beach Clean-up last semester at Boca Chica Beach near Brownsville, Texas.

SgtMaj Kinsley, Key Club Adviser and Mrs. Dio Dye, NHS Adviser, escorted 20 cadets to the annual event. Cadets helped clean up over a mile of beach area. They were also asked to identify the type of trash they collected for a survey that the state was conducting.

Cadets worked diligently to beautify the beach and make it safe for all who visit. After the event, the clean-up committee treated the cadets to sodas and hotdogs.

Cadet Operacz Recognized by Border Patrol

Cadet Lt Leland Operacz was recently recognized by the United States Border Patrol as a "Head of the Class" recipient.

He was recognized at a banquet, along with fifteen other students from across the Rio Grande Valley.

Operacz is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond

Operacz of Redondo Beach, California.

Cadet Operacz is currently involved in the Key Club, Junior States of America, Rotary Interact Club and serves Charlie Company as the Platoon Commander of the 1st Platoon.



Toys For Tots

One hundred and nine toys for Toys for Tots were purchased at Wal Mart, through the generosity of our Corps of Cadets. The cadets donated a total of \$830 from their paycall during December for the cause.

The National Honor Society and the local chapter of the Key Club initiated the collection as a community service project. Cadets Andrew Winney, Winston Elliott, Sean McCarver and Josh Gasaway were the lucky shopping representatives for the corps.

"They had a great time picking out all the gifts," stated Mrs. Diolanda Dye, NHS Sponsor. "It is important to recognize the good that our boys do."

About the Toys for Tots program, Cadet Winney added, "It's something we always cherish. The Marines are over in Iraq defending our country, and we're doing our best to perform the duties they would be doing if they hadn't shipped out."



(l-r) Andrew Winney, Winston Elliott, Josh Gasaway and Sean McCarver spent an afternoon shopping for the Toys 4 Tots project.

Athletics

Swimming

The Leatherneck Swim team competed in the Harlingen Christmas classics just before the Christmas break.

Coach Caleb Hood took four swimmers to compete in this tournament (Davis Collins, Albion Ewton, Adam Singh, Eddie Steeg). The team placed number 12 out of the 22 schools present at the tournament.

The best individual placement was Adam Singh, taking a fourth place in the 100 yd breaststroke race. This was a very close race between the top four finishers. Off of the starting blocks, Singh came out in third, but with a good first turn off the wall, moved to a very close second place. On the second turn, Singh gave up a little ground to Harlingen, making it neck and neck going down to the last turn. Coming off the wall after the last turn, the Harlingen swimmer had a very good turn and edged out Singh for the second place.

But to everyone's surprise St Joseph Academy's swimmer in lane seven had started making a very strong come back from almost a complete body length behind to pass both Singh and the Harlingen swimmer to a second place finish behind First place winner from Alice. There was only 1 second difference between the top four finishers and Singh was only 2/10ths of a second behind the third place finish.



(above) An unidentified Leatherneck swimmer practices before an upcoming meet.

Soccer

The opening game the Thursday evening before the holiday break for MMA was a fast paced battle against district opponent St. Michael.

Rodrigo Franco notched the teams first goal at the ten minute mark and added a second goal before the half to take a 2-0 lead.

St. Michael pressed hard throughout the second period but the Leathernecks were up to the challenge and gave up just one goal with six minutes remaining. They dug in and held on for the final victory 2-1.

On Friday morning MMA took on arch rival Central Catholic, but lack of bench depth finally took its toll and the Leathernecks lost the contest 2-0. The Leathernecks played well throughout the game but tired late in the second period. "They are looking forward to our next district game when we will have our entire team present," stated Coach Harold Compton.

Friday afternoon, the Leathernecks steeled themselves for another battle against district opponent Holy Cross.

The first period was an evenly matched battle with both teams scoring two goals. The second half, MMA proved to be too much for Holy Cross as they scored four times while giving up two goals. This was the most physical game of the tournament for the Leathernecks. Jose Orantes suffered a sprained ankle during the game and would not be available on the final day. Cadet Orantes had scored 4 goals in the game while cadets Franco and Virgilio Sanchez added one each.

Friday night, the Leathernecks travelled to the University of the Incarnate Word for a penalty kick competition and social gathering. MMA faced two rounds of competition and emerged as champions with both rounds going into sudden death shoot-out.

Cadet Guillermo Gil was brilliant as goalie for MMA and made a crucial save in both sudden death rounds while Federico



(above) The Leatherneck Soccer Team relaxes after winning the penalty kick competition in San Antonio recently.

Flores and Franco converted for the wins.

The final day of competition pitted MMA against Instituto Mexico America. The Leathernecks jumped out to an early 3-0 lead and held on for a final score of 6-4. Cadet Flores was the high scorer of the game with 3 goals while Cadets Franco, Gil and Sanchez added one each.

The Leathernecks had to wait for the final game of the tournament to determine where they stood and after learning that St. Andrews (in the same flight as MMA) had defeated Victoria St. Joseph's, they knew their flight was tournament champions. The MMA flight consisted of MMA, Houston St. Pius X, San Antonio St. Mary's Hall and Austin St. Andrews.

Congratulations to all the teams and players for a hard won championship.

Tournament high scorers for MMA were Cadets Orantes and Franco with 4 goals each, Cadet Flores with 3 goals, Cadet Sanchez with 2 goals and Cadet Gil with 1 goal.



Activities & Sports

VISA BASKETBALL

MMA 36 - First Baptist 34

The Leatherneck VISA Basketball Team played a scrimmage against First Baptist of Brownsville.

For most of the cadets, this was their first official game in their lifetime.

Both teams started out cold in the first quarter with MMA scoring 4 points to First Baptist's 6. Cadet Davis Geiger of Alpha Company lead the scoring with 4 points.

The second quarter saw First Baptist jump out to a 24 to 12 lead by the scoring of Barnard from First Baptist. Cadet John Wildsmith of Fox Company found First Baptist's weakness and drove the lane for 6 points.

MMA started to battle back in the third quarter by outscoring First Baptist 9 to 8.

The cadets played a team game with 4 players scoring 2 points in the quarter.

The final quarter saw a major change in the MMA team. Cadet Isaac Miller from Echo Company controlled the defensive board along with Cody Hawkins of Alpha Company. Cadet Miller finished the game with 10 rebounds. MMA outscored First Baptist in the fourth quarter by 15 to 4.

The final score was MMA 36 and First Baptist 34.

MMA 35 - Livingway 18

The eighth grade cadets of MMA opened their first game of the Basketball season with a strong win over Livingway of Brownsville.

The first quarter of the game saw both teams attempting to break out to an early lead.

The ball had other ideas of it's own by rolling around the rim and then out. MMA controlled the board with new cadet Dalton Hodges of Bravo Company pull down 7 rebounds. Cadet Hodges had one point in the quarter and Cadet Malcom Liverpool of Echo Company had two points in the quarter. The quarter closed out with the final score of MMA 3 and Livingway 2.

The second quarter saw the second team take the court and attempt to open up the scoring. The board was controlled by Cadet Isaac Miller of Echo Company with 6 rebounds and Cadet Hodges with 7 more. The scoring was a team effort with



(left) Isaac Miller, #30 and Malcom Liverpool, #10 helped the Leatherneck VISA Basketball team to victory over Calvary Christian.

Cadet Jose Alatrisme of Alpha Company with 3 points, Cadet Miller and Liverpool, each with 2 points. The quarter came to a close with MMA 10 and Livingway 8.

The third quarter saw the cadets come out running. Scoring was lead by Cadet Cameron Rux of Bravo Company and Cadet Felix Lozano of Golf Company. Each had 4 points in the quarter, along with Cadets Hodges and Miller with 2 points each. Cadet John Wildsmith of Fox Company had 1 point. MMA took a lead of 23 to 13.

The fourth quarter saw more strong play by the offense and defense. MMA out-scored Livingway 12 to 5.

MMA won 35 to 18 with a strong all around effort by the team.

MMA 41 - Calvary Christian 39

The MMA VISA Basketball team played their hardest game of the young season against Calvary Christian of Harlingen.

Our cross town rivals have beaten MMA each of the last three years. The new MMA team of 2004-2005 would not give up the fight, which would last to the last minute of the game.

The first quarter of the game, MMA broke out to a 16 to 10 lead at the end of the quarter. Cadet Isaac Miller of Echo Company and Cadet Dalton Hodges of Bravo Company lead all scorers. MMA controlled the board with Hodges and Miller each pulling down 6 rebounds. The quarter closed out with the final score of MMA 16 and Calvary Christian 10.

The second quarter saw the second team take the court and attempt to open up the scoring. Cadet Davis Geiger of Alpha Company was the starting ball handler.

Calvary Christian put on a strong press on the Cadets. Cadet Geiger handled the ball with the skills of a Varsity Team member. However, the Calvary Christians defense was stronger. The Cadets gave up a nine point lead in the first three minutes of the second quarter.

The return of the first team saw Cadet Felix Lozano of Golf Company take control of the movement of the ball and score his first 3-pointer of the season. Lozano, joined by Hodges and Cameron Rux of Bravo Company brought the Leathernecks back to within 1 by the end of the quarter. Calvary Christian was up 24 to 23.

The third quarter saw the cadets come out running. Scoring was lead by Hodges with 4 points and Lozano, Miller and Rux with 2 points each. The third quarter ended in a 33 to 33 tie.

The fourth quarter saw more strong play by the offense and defense. MMA out scored Calvary Christian 8 to 6. With only two minutes left in the quarter, the score went back and forth. Rux lead the scoring in the quarter with 6 points. Hodges and Cody Hawkins of Delta Company controlled the defensive boards at the end quarter. Hawkins pulled down the final rebound of the quarter and Lozano controlled the ball to run out the clock. MMA won 41 to 39 with a strong all around effort by the team.

T.A.P.S. District Football Season Results

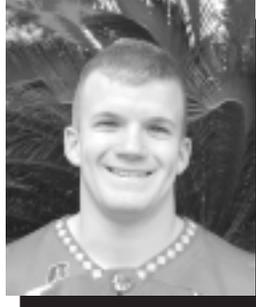
ALL STATE AND ALL DISTRICT

Leo Deng



ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM OFFENSE (WIDE RECEIVER)
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE (DEFENSIVE BACK)

Josh Gasaway



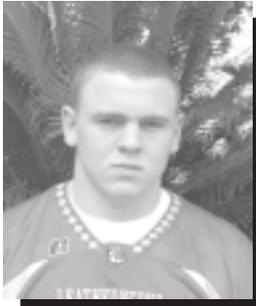
ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM DEFENSE (LINEBACKER)
ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM OFFENSE (FULLBACK)

Adam Gilles



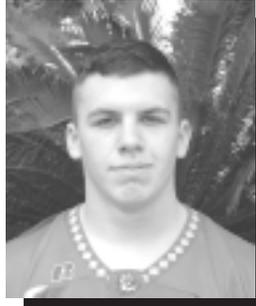
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE
(DEFENSIVE LINE)

Peter Jager



ALL STATE - 2ND TEAM (PUNTER)
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE (PUNTER)
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE (DEFENSIVE LINE)

Scott Miller



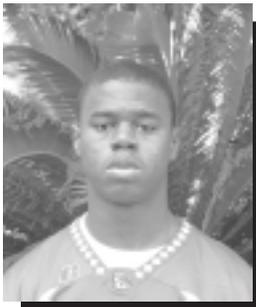
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE (LINEBACKER)

David Nekuyi



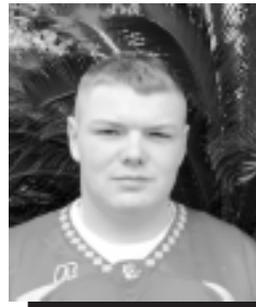
ALL DISTRICT - HONORABLE MENTION
(DEFENSIVE BACK)

Jamahl Randle



ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM OFFENSE (HALFBACK)

Justin Roach



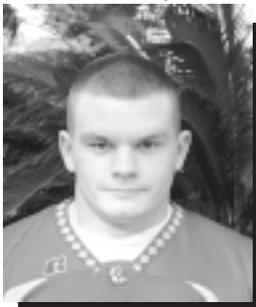
ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM DEFENSE
(DEFENSIVE LINE)

Andrew Schirm



ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM OFFENSE
(OFFENSIVE LINE)

Brian Simpson



ALL STATE - HONORABLE MENTION (OFFENSIVE LINE)
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM OFFENSE (OFFENSIVE LINE)

Jake Tucker



ALL DISTRICT - 2ND TEAM OFFENSE (TIGHT END)

Andrew Winney



ALL STATE - 2ND TEAM (LINEBACKER)
ALL DISTRICT - 1ST TEAM DEFENSE (LINEBACKER)

Alumni News

Where are they now?

'70

Lee Heuer – cell: 562-761-9972, Concessions Supervisor for ARAMARK's Sports and Entertainment Division, has one daughter, would like to hear from classmates and friends

'80

Jon Allred – jallred@sbcglobal.net - a partner with AVANCO, Inc., a commercial roofing firm in Dallas, has one daughter, keeps in touch with Jim Mischel (80), Craig Matteson (78), and Chris Crum (81)

'81

Lt Col Pat Redmon – patrick.redmon@usmc.mil - attending Marine Corps War College, saw Mike Mudd and Tim Kane (PG's 81) at the Navy-Delaware football game, and Mike Killion (PG 82), Tim Herndon (79), and Ken Zieleck (84) at USMC Commanders course

Maj Roger Roland – jollyroger@san.rr.com - has two beautiful daughters, recently earned his Master of Science degree in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, not sure what he'll do after retiring from the Corps in March, but is entertaining several possibilities

Lt Col Mike Stahlman – michael.stahlman@usmc.mil - took command last July of 1st Battalion at Parris Island, welcomed second daughter in Sept.

'82

Bard Ambroze – fishinginc5000@yahoo.com - working for a law firm in Houston, "Fishing a lot and enjoying life."

Lt Col Mike Killion – KillionMP@4MEB.usmc.mil - took command in Oct of the Anti-Terrorism Battalion at Camp Lejeune

'83

Maj Mike Holmes USA – mike.holmes1@us.army.mil - stationed in Tallil, Iraq, writing down his experiences, hopes to publish in book form when he returns



(Above) Greg Garrels '70 lives in Alaska & will be making Reunion 2005.

Chris Scherer – chris@cschererlaw.com - has own law firm in San Antonio where he lives with wife Michelle, daughter Virginia (9), and son Grant (4)

'86

Maj Robert Scott – robert.r.scott@usmc.mil - X0, 2nd Bn, 3rd Mar., stationed in Hawaii, has been on several deployments, wife Gabriela holding down the home front (four children)

'87

James "Superfly" Simon – jsimon050@msn.com - a special education teacher in Indiana, sends special greetings to Chaplain McDonald

'90

Maj Miguel "Mando" Avila – mando94@msn.com - stationed at Quantico with HMX -1, the Presidential Helicopter Squadron. Graduated from Texas A&M.



'92

Daniel McKnight – mcknight@lsu.edu - attending law school at Louisiana State University after several years as a deputy sheriff/homicide detective, enjoying life with wife and two sons

Joe Turley – joe.turley@gmail.com or polarbear@yahoo.com - living in Anchorage, AK and working for GCI, a local cable company, plans to begin work on a degree in computer science this summer

'93

LCpl Horacio A. Ritch – RitchH@29palms.usmc.mil - at 29 Palms doing CAX training until March

'99

Cpl Brook Foreman – virtigo2@aol.com - stationed in Iraq, A Co. 1/23 1st platoon unit 41902, FPO, AP 96426-1902

'02

LCpl Brian Cripps - received activation orders and was scheduled for active duty on 1/3/05. He transitions to 29 Palms by January 10 and will train there until deployed to Iraq by March 1.



(above) Alberto Pina (center) is in his plebe year at the United States Naval Academy.

'04

Alberto Pina – devildogtx@hotmail.com - in plebe year at Naval Academy – was plebe company commander last semester. Met up with Andres Testman for a roadtrip to San Francisco to see Navy play in the Emerald Bowl. Academics at Naval Academy are very challenging. Still active in Boy Scouts, joining the NESAs at the Academy.

(left) Major Miquel "Mando" Avila is at the helm of the Presidential Helicopter.

2005 MMA 40th ALUMNI REUNION LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL 14-17 APRIL

The President of the Marine Military Academy, Major General Wayne E. Rollings, takes pleasure in inviting all MMA Alumni and their families for the Academy's 40th Reunion. We want to establish an Alumni attendance record this year and appreciate those that are able to schedule an enjoyable and memorable visit back to your high school.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY 14 APRIL Registration Check-in (Thursday & Friday) Cadet Activities Center Peacher Hall

FRIDAY 15 APRIL

0830 - Colors Formation
0900-0930- General Rollings Welcome
0930-1030 - Briefings by the Military, Academic, Admissions, and Institutional Dept.
1030-1100 - Dedication, MMA Wall of Honor
1100-1300 - Lunch available in Mess Hall
1200 - Alumni review Cadet Corps marching Pass In Review for noon meal-as Honored Guest
1300-1430 Tours of campus Everyone meet at Cadet Activities Center
1430- Alumni to meet at Cadet Activities Center for briefing on presentation to cadets
1500- 1600 Alumni (selected & volunteers) address Cadet Corps
Srs at Cadet Activities Center; Alumni present MMA Alumni lapel pins to Srs; Underclassmen in Auditorium
1700-Evening meal available in Mess Hall (Remember - heavy hors d'oeuvres served at Reception)
1800-Evening Parade by Corps of Cadets-Honoring Alumni
Alumni review Pass in Review with President
Following Parade, Alumni assemble at Iwo Jima Statue for short Memorial service honoring deceased members of the MMA family
1930-2200 General's Reception at Cadet Activities Center

SATURDAY 16 APRIL

0830-1000 Continental Breakfast-Cadet Activities Center
0930-1030 Business Meeting-Cadet Activities Center
1030-1230 Rappelling Tower, Run O Course & COPE Course
Rifle Range-test your skill, Alumni & Guests are invited to shoot
MMA weapons only
1230-1300 Hamburgers & Hotdogs at the Mess Hall
1300-1600 Alumni play Softball with Cadets Varsity Field
Alumni play Basketball with Cadets Field House
1800-Valley Race Park - Drink Cocktails, Cash Bar
1900-Alumni Dinner Buffet Valley Race Park (\$20 per person)
To assist in the count, please mail checks with registration form.

SUNDAY 17 APRIL

0800-1100 Sunday Brunch (includes traditional SOS) available in Mess hall
0945-1200 Recon Paintball war Alumni & Cadets

Casual attire for weekend, shirt w/collar & trousers for Generals Reception & Alumni Dinner Buffet.
Meals at Mess hall are at no charge for Alumni.

OFTEN USED HOTELS:

Courtyard by Marriott- 1725 W. Filmore (956) 412-7800 MMA rate: \$72.00 with proceeds of 10% returned to MMA Scholarship funds.
Holiday Inn Express- 501 S P Street (956) 428-9292 MMA rate: \$61.50
LaQuinta Inns- 1002 S Expressway 83 (956) 428-6888 MMA rate: \$64.60
Ramada Unlimited- 4401 S Expressway 83 (956) 425-1333 MMA rate: \$62.00 single and \$67.00 double
Super 8 Motel 1115 S. Expressway 77 & 83 (956) 412-8873 MMA rate: \$49.95

Note: When making reservations, indicate MMA Alumnus for MMA Reunion. Above are not regular rates.

Calendar of Events

February

4 Academic Awards
 5 Plebe Graduation
 19 Iwo Jima Parade
 25-26 HM Smith Dinner & Parade

March

11 Third Quarter Exams
 11 Begin Spring Break
 20 End Spring Break
 21 4th Quarter Classes begin

Travel Reminder

Spring Break Leave

All cadets are required to depart the campus after 1600, 11 March 05 and must return by 1800, 20 March 05

History Of MMA " Marching in Cadence" Now Available



Marching in Cadence, The History of the Marine Military Academy, written by Ed and Corinne Swaney of Harlingen is now ready for purchase.

Copies of the book, which would make great Father's Day or graduation gifts, are currently available from the Iwo Jima Museum and Gift Shop, located on the grounds of the Marine Military Academy. For more information, please call the Museum at (956) 423-6006, ext 676 or 678.

Corinne and Ed Swaney, co-authors of Marching in Cadence, The History of the Marine Military Academy.

Memorials

LCpl Alexander Arredondo -
 KIA, NAJAF, Aug. 04
 John H. Austin
 BGen Victor A. Baracco, USMC
 LtCol John F. Bolt, USMC (Ret)
 James Gobert
 Adam W. Hall - MMA '98
 SgtMaj Walter F. Heckman (Ret)
 BGen E. Hunter Hurst
 Robert A. Martin
 Col John G. Metz, USMC (Ret)
 John Miller, Jr.
 Major Hildreth (Mike) Moody - VMF 422
 MajGen Raymond L. Murray
 Alvin G. Padilla
 Col Jack L. Reed, USMC (Ret)
 Maj Larry Robinson
 Robert H. Slee
 W.R. Wardroup
 GySgt Larry L. Wisnoski, USMC (Ret)

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